Mr. Narasimha Kammathi of Shertallay (Nominated) said that in many cases larger areas than necessary were now left as poramboke on the banks of lakes, canals, &c.

Reply.—The suggestion is good and will be followed as far as possible.

55. Empowering Tahsildars to dispose of poramboke cases.

Mr. G Sankaranarayana Iyer (Shencottah) represented that it would ensure the speedy disposal of poramboke cases, if Tahsildars could be empowered to pass final orders on them, instead of their being permitted only to hold an enquiry under authority from the Peishcar and submit a report, as was now done.

Mr. Sattanathan Karayalan (Shencottah) also spoke on the subject.

Reply.—Some of the members said yesterday that Tahsildars have been already saddled with a multiplicity of duties and it is not desirable to give them still more work. When a petition in a matter like this is presented to the Peishkar, he ordinarily refers it to the Tahsildar. So the very officer whom you desire to dispose of it will be available to inspect the spot and hold the enquiry. The final disposal alone remains with the Peishkar. Government do not consider it expedient in these cases to go below Division Assistants as adjudicating officers.

56. Supply of information as to the best means of draining punja lands, to the Agricultural Association, Changanachery.

Mr. Dominic Thomman (Agricultural Association, Changanachery) stated that the agricultural implements now used in the State were primitive and that the foreign machines available in the market were unsuited to local conditions. In small isolated areas covering punja lands of 10 to 100 acres, the machines now in use did not serve their purpose and the employment of human agency involved waste of energy. He suggested that Government might publish a clear specification of the machine required and offer a substantial reward or guarantee a large sale for the approved pattern, in which case model water-wheels would spring into existence and the ryots owning punja lands would largely benefit thereby.

Reply.—If the Association only want information, they might

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easily obtain it themselves or, failing it, move Government to procure the same for them. Publication of a specification, offering rewards, &c., are important matters which require consideration.

57. Necessity for allotting grounds for pasture and the growth of manure trees.

Mr. Mathevan Kesavan and Mr. Kanakku Mathevan Kesavan (Neyyattinkara), Mr. Kanakku Mathevan Mathevan (Nedumangad), Mr. A. Harihara Iyer (Chirayinkil) and Mr. K. C. Manman Mappillay, B. A , (Kottayam) requested the early attention of Government to this subject and pointed out that it was brought up at the last session of the Assembly.

Mr. Kanakku Mathevan Kesavan also suggested that a tax might be levied from persons availing themselves of these pasture grounds.

Mr. R. Nambi Iyer (Tovala) said that about 5 square miles of land for grazing purposes might be set apart in the Poigamalai, Veerapuly and Mahendragiri reserves and that a toll per head of foreign cattle entering them might be levied.

Mr. P. Nellayandar Pillai (Agastisvaram), Mr. Padmanabha Pillai and Mr. M Bhuthalingam Pillai (Eraniel), Mr. M. Madhavan Tampi (Kalkulam), Mr. S. Krishna Iyer, B. A., B. L., (T. I. C., Alleppey), Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai and Mr. K. Kochu Thomman (Chengannur), Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer and Mr. Sattanathan Karayalan (Shencottah) and Mr. K. G. Sesha Iyer, B. A., B.L., (Central Association, Trivandrum) also advocated the urgent necessity for providing pasture grounds for cattle.

Reply.—This is an important question. When the village was under the administration of the community as a corporation, pasture grounds used to be invariably reserved by the villagers. Even now, in some parts of British India, lands for this purpose are set apart by villagers who hold them in common. Ordinarily, every ryot is expected to allot a portion of his land for the pasturage of his cattle. It is however natural that in many cases this may not be found feasible. Instructions have already been issued and some proposals are before Government. On receipt of replies from all the officers whose opinions have been invited, the whole matter will be considered and final orders passed.

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